

CHAPTER 1.1.1.

GENERAL DEFINITIONS

***Buffer zone***

A zone established within, and along the border of, to protect the health status of animals in a free country or free zone, from those in a country or zone of a different animal health status, using measures based on the epidemiology of the disease under consideration to prevent spread of the causative pathogenic agent into a free country or free zone. These measures may include, but are not limited to, vaccination, movement control and an intensified degree of disease surveillance.

Vaccinated animals must be recognisable by a specific permanent mark. The vaccines used must meet standards defined in the *Terrestrial Manual*.

The *buffer zone* should have an intensified degree of disease surveillance and control.

***Surveillance zone***

means a zone established within, and along the border of, a *free zone* separating the *free zone* from an *infected zone*.

The *surveillance zone* should have an intensified degree of surveillance.

***Competent Authority***

The *Veterinary Services*, or other Authority of a Member Country, having the responsibility and competence for ensuring or supervising the implementation of the animal health measures or other standards in the *Terrestrial Code*.

***Notification***

The procedure by which:

- a) the *Veterinary Administration* informs the *Central Bureau*,
- b) the *Central Bureau* informs *Veterinary Administrations*,

of the ~~suspicion or confirmation~~ occurrence of an *outbreak* of disease or infection, according to the provisions of Chapter 1.1.3. of the *Terrestrial Code*.

***Official control programme***

A programme which is approved, and managed or supervised by the *Veterinary Administration* of a country for the purpose of controlling a vector, pathogen or *disease* by specific measures applied throughout that country, or within a *zone* or *compartment* ~~or zones~~ of that country.

***Case***

An individual *animal* infected by a pathogenic agent ~~listed by the OIE~~, with or without clinical signs.

### ***Emerging disease***

A new *infection* resulting from the evolution or change of an existing pathogenic agent, a known *infection* spreading to a new geographic area or *population*, or a previously unrecognized pathogenic agent or *disease* diagnosed for the first time and which has a significant impact on animal or public health.

### ***Epidemiological unit***

A group of animals with a defined epidemiological relationship that share approximately the same likelihood of exposure to a pathogen. This may be because they share a common environment (e.g. animals in a pen), or because of common management practices. Usually, this is a herd or a flock. However, an epidemiological unit may also refer to groups such as animals belonging to residents of a village, or animals sharing a communal dipping tank system. The epidemiological relationship may differ from disease to disease, or even strain to strain of the pathogen.

### ***Notifiable disease***

A *disease* listed by the *Veterinary Administration*, and that, as soon as detected or suspected, must be brought to the attention of the *Veterinary Authority*, in accordance with national regulations.

### ***Outbreak of disease or infection***

~~an~~ The occurrence of one or more cases of the diseases a disease or an infection listed by the OIE in an epidemiological unit-establishment, breeding establishment or premises, including all buildings and all adjoining premises, where animals are present.

~~Where it cannot be defined in this way, the outbreak shall be considered as occurring in the part of the territory in which, taking local conditions into account, it cannot be guaranteed that both susceptible and non-susceptible animals have had no direct contact with affected or suspected cases in that area.~~

~~For example, in the case of certain parts of Africa, an outbreak means the occurrence of the disease within a sixteenth square degree; the occurrence is still referred to as an outbreak even though the disease may occur in several places within the same sixteenth square degree.~~

### ***Antimicrobial agent***

A naturally occurring, semi-synthetic or synthetic substance that exhibits antimicrobial activity (kill or inhibit the growth of micro-organisms). Anthelmintics and substances classed as disinfectants or antiseptics are excluded from this definition.